

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph 001 as follows:

The present invention relates to a flanged connection for fixing a gas-filled spring in a machine tool ~~according to the pre-characterising part of claim 1~~ wherein the flanged connection includes an upper flange half and a lower flange half, which can be joined together and which each have a through-opening intended to receive the gas-filled spring, and a locking ring intended to secure the gas-filled spring by insertion into a groove of complementary design around the gas-filled spring and intended for fixing between the flange halves, wherein the locking ring is supplemented by a fixing element designed to apply a clamping force around the gas-filled spring when joining the flange halves together.

Please amend paragraph 002 as follows:

The invention also relates to a method of fixing a gas-filled spring in a machine tool ~~according to the pre-characterising part of claim 10~~ by which method an upper flange half and a lower flange half which can be joined together are fitted around the gas-filled spring and a locking ring arranged between the flange halves is fitted around the gas-filled spring in a groove of complementary design and is fixed between the flange halves securing the gas-filled spring, wherein when joining a clamping force is applied around the gas-filled spring by a fixing element supplementing the locking ring.

Please amend paragraph 006 as follows:

An object of the present Invention is to provide an improved flanged connection and method of fixing a gas-filled spring in a machine tool. This has been achieved by a flanged connection for fixing a gas-filled spring in a machine tool wherein the flanged connection includes an upper flange half and a lower flange half, which can be joined together and which each have a through-opening intended to receive the gas-filled spring, and a locking ring intended to secure the gas-filled spring by insertion into a groove of complementary design around the gas-filled spring and intended for fixing between the flange halves, wherein the locking ring is supplemented by a fixing element designed to apply a clamping force around the gas-filled spring when joining the flange halves together. This has also been achieved by and a method having the characteristic features specified in the characterising parts of claims 1 and 10 respectively of fixing a gas-filled spring in a machine tool by which method an upper flange half and a lower flange half which can be joined together are fitted around the gas-filled spring and a locking ring arranged between the flange halves is fitted around the gas-filled spring in a groove of complementary design and is fixed between the flange halves securing the gas-filled spring, wherein when joining a clamping force is applied around the gas-filled spring by a fixing element supplementing the locking ring.